

MINUTES
MAG REGIONAL CONCEPT OF TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS
STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING NO. 9

May 7, 2003
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Maricopa Association of Governments
302 N First Avenue, Suite 300
Phoenix, Arizona

ATTENDANCE

Carl Burkhalter, ADOT
Bruce Dressel, City of Scottsdale
Steve Ramsey, City of Scottsdale
Mike Sutton, Town of Gilbert
Sarath Joshua, MAG
Xiao Qin, MAG
Faisal Saleem, MCDOT
Scott Nodes, City of Peoria

Ron Hergert, City of Phoenix Police
Bob Ciotti, Valley Metro
Bob Maki, City of Surprise
Mike Mah, City of Chandler
Jimmie Dixon, City of Glendale
Mary Kihl, ASU
Jim Decker, City of Tempe

PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT

Pierre Pretorius, Kimley-Horn and Associates
Brent Crowther, Kimley-Horn and Associates

Lisa Burgess, Kimley-Horn and Associates.
Chris Jordan, Kimley-Horn and Associates

MINUTES

1. Introduction and Welcome, Project Schedule, and Previous Meeting Minutes

Sarath Joshua opened the meeting. He reminded the Stakeholders Group that MAG is responsible for the Performance Measurement Program, and that it is important for each of the Stakeholders to remember that all have agreed to specific goals and activities in the Regional Concept of Transportation Operations.

Sarath Joshua turned the meeting over to Pierre Pretorius. Pierre began by reviewing the project Vision and Mission statements. He then reported that the project is on schedule, with the exception that an additional month was allowed for Stakeholder Review and Comment on Tech Memo No. 5/6.

Pierre reviewed the "Life Cycle of the Concept of Transportation Operations", noting that project planning is nearing completion; the next stage in the Life Cycle of the Concept of Transportation Operations is implementation by the Stakeholders Group.

Pierre then presented a summary review of what tasks have been accomplished to date, and what tasks are in the near future. The minutes of the previous meeting was approved.

2. Distribution of Tech Memo No. 5/6 (Final Draft): Necessary Institutional Arrangements and Resources Required for Implementation

Pierre summarized the role of the “initiative champions”, followed by a summary of the proposed activities of each group. Bob Maki emphasized the need for implementing the Regional Concept of Transportation Operations by sharing his experience on I-17 during a recent incident. The freeway was closed for nearly 7 hours. Reducing incident duration and providing accurate and timely travel information is critical to improving transportation in the Region.

Sarath Joshua further emphasized that the Stakeholders will be asked to monitor their activities and progress. Preferably, this reporting will be via a web-enabled system. Sarath Joshua said that he will be developing a monitoring schedule. Sarath emphasized that while the Initiative Champions will be working with several different groups of people and individuals, it is important to have a centrally located collection point to facilitate the monitoring of transportation operations activities.

In order to elevate operations discussions, it was proposed that the MAG ITS Committee Meeting Agenda may operate on a bimonthly schedule, with operations and capital improvements alternating on the agenda on a bi-monthly schedule.

3. Presentation of Executive Power-Point Presentation

Pierre presented the Executive power-point presentation. Bob Maki commented that the presentation could be improved by incorporating additional animation, graphics, and pictures, while using fewer words.

Mike Sutton expressed concern over the purpose of the presentation. He asked the group if there is a specific issue or question that they should be asking of their managers and council members.

Mike Mah asked if it is the intention of the Committee to request each Mayor to sign the MOU. Sarath said that it is the intention for the mayors to sign the MOU. However, if the RCTO Steering Group decides that this is not of value, alternatives should be considered. Sarath emphasized that a primary message to managers and council members should be that we, as a Stakeholder Group, have committed to improving operations with existing infrastructure. He also emphasized that while alternative funding options may emerge (e.g., ½ cent sales tax), implementation of the RCTO should not be tied to additional funding sources.

Mike Mah and Jim Decker expressed concern about presenting the RCTO to the City Council, and fear that they may misunderstand the goals and intentions of the RCTO. They are not convinced of the need to present the RCTO to the council. They believe that buy-in of upper level management of public works and transportation department directors are adequate. They noted that mayors and city council members have already expressed support of regional cooperation through AZTech agreements.

Bruce Dressel suggested that the Council is interested in numbers (e.g., dollar figures), and not interested in informational type presentations. He suggested that this presentation should be presented to Regional Council, rather than each of the individual mayors. The group agreed that they will present/submit the MOU and information to public works and transportation directors, and that MAG staff will then present/submit to all the MAG committees and finally, to the Regional Council/Mayors.

4. Next Meeting and Workshop

The next meeting of the RCTO Stakeholder Group Meeting will occur on June 4, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. following the regularly scheduled MAG ITS Committee Meeting.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.